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March 2, 2018
Art by Mickey Paraskevas

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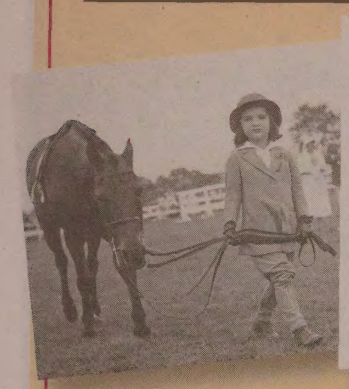
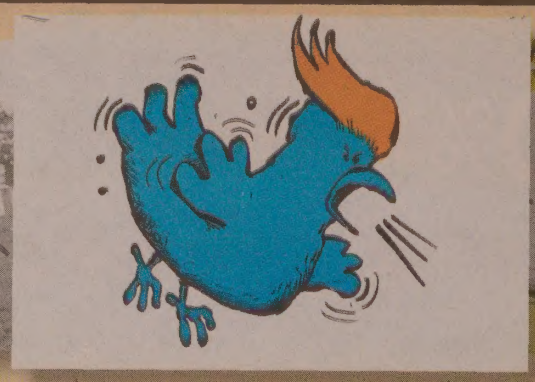
VOLUME LVIII NUMBER 49

Dan's Papers

This issue is dedicated to the U.S. Curling Team.

MARCH 2, 2018





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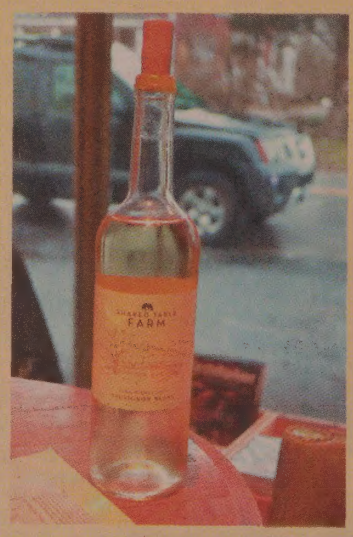

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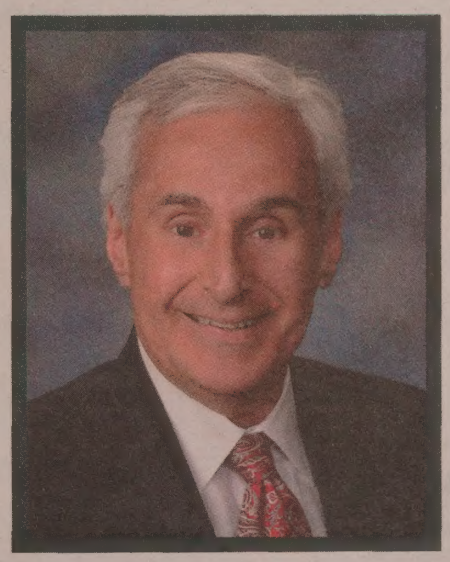

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Remsenburg | $1,550,000 | 4-BR, 4.5-BA | **Web# H19713**

Water Mill | $1,495,000 | 4-BR, 3-BA | **Web# H22246**

East Quogue | $1,495,000 | 5-BR, 4.5-BA | **Web# H100265**

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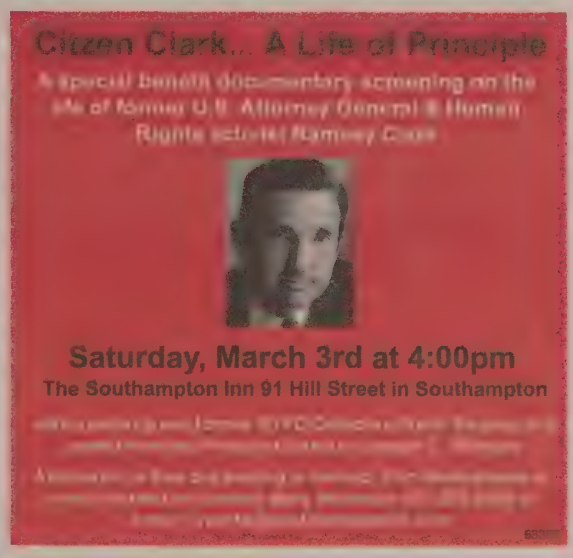
Coming to the big screens: Amagansett's **Alec Baldwin** is tackling a new topic for an upcoming film: fake art. The untitled film will be based on **Michael Shnayerson**'s 2012 *Vanity Fair* story, "A Question of Provenance," about a $100 million scam involving fake Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothko pieces. Baldwin is familiar with the subject matter; he was sold a counterfeit **Ross Bleckner** painting and successfully sued the responsible gallery. Amagansett's **Blythe Danner** is looking at a busy year in 2018, with her hotly anticipated Showtime limited series *Patrick Melrose* starring *The Imitation Game* Academy Award-winner **Benedict Cumberbatch** AND three films in wide release.

Amagansett's **Scarlett Johansson** will present at the Independent Spirit Awards this weekend, along with **Ava DuVernay**, **John Hamm** and others. The Awards, hosted by Film Independent, a nonprofit arts organization, will air live on IFC on March 3 at 5 p.m.

Good times for good causes: The Ellen Hermanson Foundation will hold their annual fundraiser, Denim and Diamonds, on Saturday, March 10 at 230 Elm Productions, 230 Elm Street, Southampton. The event will include fabulous multi-chef tastings, open bar, DJ Double S Productions, Mirror Photobooth NYC, a silent auction and a live auction with award-winning comedian and Emmy Award winning television producer **Angela LaGreca**. The Foundation will honor **Dr. Louis Avvento**, **Jason** and **Theresa Belkin** and **Shirley Ruch**. Proceeds benefit The Ellen Hermanson Breast Center at Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, its satellites and Ellen's Well, a program that provides oncological social worker–led support groups, nutrition, yoga, Reiki and other healing opportunities for breast cancer survivors. News 12 Long Island reporter **Shari Einhorn** will emcee the 20th Anniversary Pink Pearl Gala on April 27 at East Wind. Einhorn often covers health-related stories for the regional television station. She has served as master of ceremonies for the previous three North Fork Breast Health Coalition galas.

East End St. Patrick's Day parade marshals have bee named! **Peter Cuthbert**, Westhampton Beach March 10; **Dell Cullum**, Am-O'Gansett March 10; **Paul Connor**, Cutchogue March 10; **Andrew J. Streeff**, Miller Place-Rocky Point March 11; **Keith Caputo**, Center Moriches March 11; **David Kennedy**, Patchogue March 18; **Fergus Scully**, Hampton Bays March 24; **Sean Walter**, Jamesport March 24; **Kathleen Keller**, Montauk, March 25,

Read more SouthO on DanPapers.com



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The Hamptons Subway Newsletter

BY DAN RATTINER

Week of March 1–6, 2018
Riders this past week: 26,814
Rider miles this past week: 89,813

DOWN IN THE TUBE

Author Roger Rosenblatt was seen in animated conversation with Renaissance man Alan Alda on a morning subway headed toward Montauk from Amagansett on Thursday. Jerry Seinfeld was spotted carrying three mitts, a baseball bat and ball between Bridgehampton and East Hampton last Wednesday afternoon. Jimmy Buffett of North Haven was seen on his way to the Georgica Station, the summer-only stop, to see how things were coming along with his plan to have it decorated in a Margaritaville décor in time for the opening of his Broadway show *Escape to Margaritaville*, apparently unaware that his plan to have it done was rejected.

SOLAR PANELS ON SUBWAYS?

A plan to put an array of solar panels on the roofs of all the subway cars has been approved by the Hamptons Subway committee and will be in place by June 15. The project will cost $650,000. That the train is entirely underground could be a problem, but who knows. Hamptons Subway has always been at the forefront of new technology.

MAJOR GENERAL FIRED

Unbeknownst to Commissioner Aspinall, Lawrence Barry, the new chief of the Hamptons Subway maintenance crew, which cleans and repairs the trains every night between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. in the Montauk Yards had, upon arrival here one month ago, given military titles to all the workers. He declared himself general, his foremen became lieutenants, the worker chiefs became sergeants and the staff members became privates. The Commissioner found out about this when he went out to the Yards last Thursday evening to do his annual review and found all the men lined up and at attention for inspection wearing yellow berets and holstered pistols. Barry told him he had given these titles in the hopes his platoon would work faster. The Commissioner quickly left and the next morning, in his Hampton Bays office, fired Barry via e-mail, signing himself as Commander-in-Chief.

BELOVED SERVICE DOG DIES

Pets are not permitted on the subway system, but service animals are allowed to help a straphanger with special needs. Last Thursday, on a crowded train heading from Southampton to Shinnecock, Annie Collins, who has a nervous problem soothed by her toy poodle, Andy, suffered a terrible blow when a poisonous service snake named Biff, owned by Charlie Watson of Hampton Bays (who has anger problems), bit Andy through the bars of its snake carrier cage. Tomorrow, Friday, is a day of mourning on the subway and framed pictures of Andy will be at all the token booths. Donations are welcome.

TUNNEL MACHINE CHAINED

Straphangers will surely notice the big re-enforced concrete patch on the tunnel wall between Water Mill and Bridgehampton halfway along. The patch has become necessary to keep the Hamptons Subway tunnel-boring machine from doing further damage. This machine, the size of a truck, started itself up last Wednesday at 3 a.m. and lurched forward in its storage room to carve a huge hole in the wall trying to get out. Maintenance workers fought with it as it sat crossways on the tracks—turning it off did no good—and finally wrestled it back into the storage room to chain it to the wall. Straphangers will also be able to hear it from their subway cars as they go by, roaring away.

COMMISSIONER ASPINALL'S MESSAGE

Straphangers have nothing to fear from the tunnel-boring machine. The chains that tie him to the wall in the storage room are made of titanium and cannot be broken.

POLICE BLOTTER

COMPILED BY DANIEL KOONTZ

VOLUNTEER POLICE PREPARE FOR HANDOVER

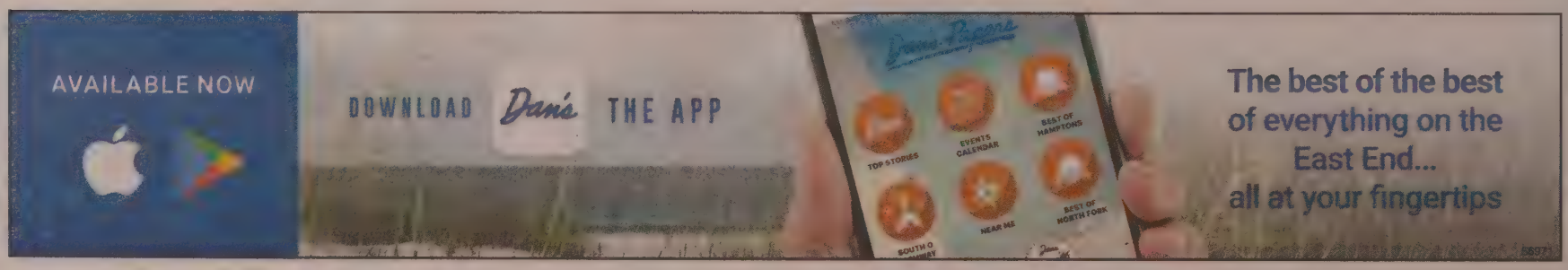
As the members of the Hamptons Police force readied for their departure on Monday for their month-long Winter Break in Acapulco, the volunteers who signed up to cover in the officers' absence have been stepping up their training.

According to Hamptons Police spokesman Larry Hirsch, the paid force's officers have been very impressed with the acumen of the volunteer trainee forces, and there's a high level of confidence that the volunteers will be able to cover law enforcement reasonably well while the professionals are out of town. "Are they as polished as our veteran officers? No, of course not," says Hirsch. "Are they full of energy and ready to do their best? Absolutely."

Last weekend, the volunteers were sent out to take on patrols and enforcement duties for the first time without professional supervision—always a nerve-wracking experience for all involved, says Hirsch, chuckling. "It's like sending your teenaged daughter out on her own with a new boyfriend—you don't know who's more nervous, you or them!" Hirsch says that the volunteers' maiden voyage weekend went fairly well, although there were a few incidents. Two squad cars were wrecked when their volunteer drivers took them careening into traffic in a "wrong way chase" on the Sunrise Highway that turned out to be completely unnecessary. "They thought they saw somebody driving the wrong way out there. It was dark, and some guy threw a lit cigarette out of his car window, which in the dark can look like a taillight heading the wrong way. It was a rookie mistake, but it could have happened to anyone, really."

Luckily, no serious injuries were reported from the resulting crash, although three civilian cars were severely damaged along with the squad cars. In another incident, a volunteer officer, who had not received adequate firearm instruction, discharged his police-issued handgun into his own foot. "He was trying to show off by twirling it around," says Hirsch. "He's going to be sitting volunteer month out." Preliminary statistics show that the volunteers issued very few tickets over the weekend, but Hirsch notes that that doesn't trouble the Hamptons Police. "Our view is, as long as they keep themselves and the area in basically one piece while we're gone, we're happy. It's not every community that can rely upon a stable group of dedicated volunteers willing to give of their time and energy to help out with policing while all of their exhausted professional police officers get some much needed R and R in sunny Mexico, so we're not going to quibble about a few tickets. We love this place, and we can't wait to come back tanned and refreshed from Acapulco to whip this place back into shape!"

Read more Hamptons Police Blotter on DansPapers.com.



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Sag Harbor's HarborFrost 2018

Sag Harbor was the place to be Saturday, February 24, for the annual HarborFrost. This celebration of winter highlighted two extremes—fire and ice—with attractions including fire jugglers, a frosty plunge, ice carving demonstrations and a fireworks show presented by Fireworks by Grucci. **Photographs by Barbara Lassen**

1. The very talented performer **Alfredo Merat**
2. **Oscar** and **Kate Sheehan**
3. Founder of Ice Memories Inc. **Rich Daly** carves dreams from water
4. **Neha** and **Naveen Choudary** with **Leela** and **Jiya**
5. Sag Harbor Chamber of Commerce Board Member **Marilyn Holstein**, Sag Harbor Chamber of Commerce President **Lisa Field**
6. All smiles as these "plungers" exit the water
7. **Fran Nill**, **Margaret Smyth**, **Lisa Koehne**, **Emiley Nill**, **Will Gawronski** gear up to get "frosty"
8. **Patrick Harvey** makes memories with **Clara** and **Liam**
9. **Jackie** and **Mackenzie**
10. Juggler **Keith Leaf** prepares to throw some fire
11. **Ravenel** warming up after she completed the frosty plunge

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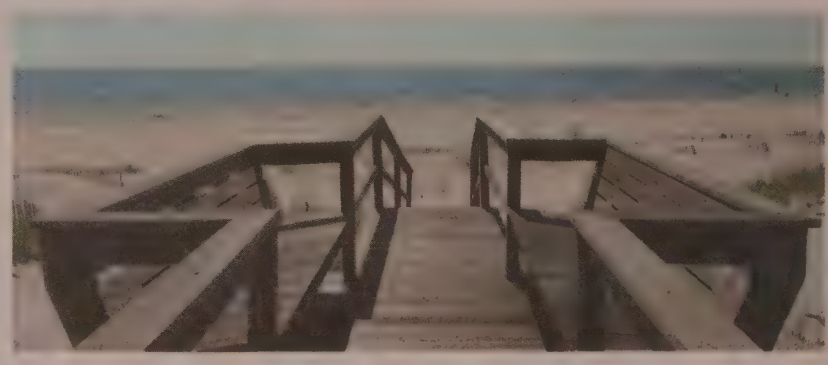

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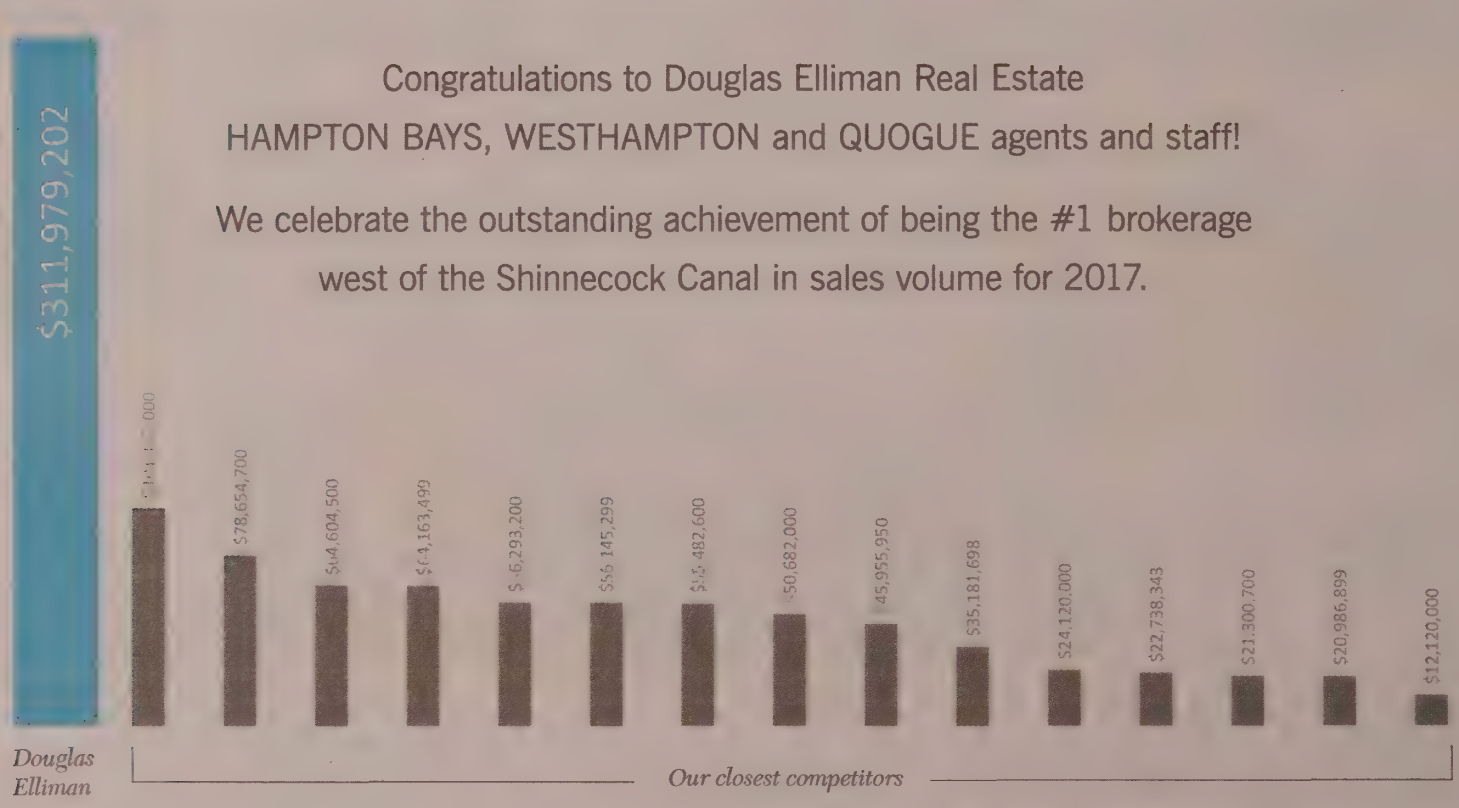

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Jacqueline Bouvier taking the lead, August 1934, Southampton Riding & Hunt Club.

The Legend Continues

Grey Gardens, an Alleged Burglary and a Painting of Jackie

BY DAN RATTINER

The long and extraordinary legend of the East Hampton mansion called Grey Gardens continues with a lawsuit filed last week. The suit claims that an oil painting made of Jackie Bouvier (Onassis) when she was 19 years old was stolen from that house and today is in the Wallace Art Gallery in East Hampton.

Terry Wallace, the defendant in the lawsuit, says he does legitimately own the painting. He says he bought the painting in the late 1980s and, as he does with all his paintings, he studied its provenance, was satisfied with it, and, according to *The New York Times*, if anyone can show that this painting was stolen, he would return it.

The painting was commissioned in 1948 by Jackie Kennedy's father, John Vernou "Black Jack" Bouvier III, painted by Irwin Hoffman and later, according to the Beale family, given to his sister Big Edie Bouvier before his death and it remained with her at her home until a burglary about 20 years later.

Grey Gardens is the East Hampton mansion where Big Edie and her daughter Little Edie lived when, in 1971, filmmakers Albert and David Maysles were brought to the house by Jackie Kennedy's sister and knocked on the front door of what looked like a decrepit, nearly abandoned and filthy mansion. More than two dozen cats roamed the premises. The two ladies invited the filmmakers in, gave them a house tour and talked about how the house got in such a bad condition—Big Edie's husband had divorced her during the 1930s and abandoned them. Now the County Board of Health wanted them evicted. The town hadn't done it. And the family, many still in East Hampton, did not do anything for them because until this meeting, it seemed, the Beales never asked.

Jackie, who had summered in East Hampton growing up, met Jack Kennedy two years after the painting was made and soon married the man who became the 35th President of the United States.

The mother and daughter remained in that house for a number of years, until Big Edie died at 81 and a few years later, about 1980, her daughter was enticed to go live with relatives in Palm Beach and sold the house to Ben Bradlee and Sally Quinn. She died in 2002.

It was in the late 1960s, the lawsuit says, that the alleged burglary likely happened. No, there was no report of it made to the police. Things were chaotic and the Beales didn't trust the town.

The New York Times says that an heir of the Beales claims to have seen the painting "around 2004" at the gallery, asked about it and was told the owner had bought it legally.

Wallace seems amazed at the lawsuit. He said he has many wealthy clients, has a reputation to protect and would never engage in stolen goods. He's had his gallery in the same spot for a quarter of a century. Wallace will present the provenance he has for the painting in court if need be. If it turns out it was stolen, he said he will give the painting to its rightful owner.

A WRONG RIGHTED

In October 1985, a 45-year-old Southampton Village police lieutenant involved in fighting a house fire on Prospect Street in that town suffered smoke inhalation that required medical treatment. Shortly thereafter he suffered a heart attack. He recovered from that, but the following May he suffered another one, which killed him. He died on June 1, 1986.

Theodore Raffel Sr. was still a police officer when he died. He had served continuously on the force for 19 years, 364 days and 15.5 hours at the time of his death. He was survived by his widow, Jean, and a son, Ted Jr. Had he served another 8.5 hours, he would have completed exactly 20 years of service, making him eligible for a pension of about $250,000.

His wife's claims for that pension were denied. Had it been approved, it would have set a bad precedent, New York State said. However, every year since he took office in 1995, State Assemblyman Fred Thiele has re-applied for that pension in the interest of justice, and this year, by adding safeguards that would prevent this claim from becoming precedent, had it approved, with interest.

Sometimes things work out. We are very proud that this effort, accompanied by efforts from Senator Ken LaValle, has resulted in the right thing being done.

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Unexplained Voting District Separation for a Man and Wife

BY DAN RATTINER

Dennis Rodriguez and Meredith Kennedy live in a house on Hill Station Road in Southampton and have been married for more than 20 years. They have kids. It's a happy family. And yet, it is important to note that Rodriguez and Kennedy do not live in different parts of their house.

Why is this important? Because somebody, somewhere, has registered them in two different districts in Southampton. They are American citizens. They vote. Somehow, using this same address, Dennis was assigned to vote in District 15 and Meredith in District 27. They went together to the polling place, in the old days at the old Parrish Museum and more recently at the Southampton Cultural Center, and they got separated. He goes to one booth, she goes to another.

You wouldn't think this would matter that much, but the difference has also spread to package delivery. With the U.S. Postal Service, Rodriguez has to go to the post office and identify himself before a package is given to him. If the package is for his wife, they leave it on the doorstep.

Dennis thinks he has the explanation.

"My wife is Caucasian, the granddaughter of William Merritt Chase," he says. "I'm Puerto Rican, a Hispanic from the Bronx."

Dennis first noticed the problem when they lived in Queens. They've lived in Southampton for 17 years. But they lived in Flushing for six years before that.

"At our apartment, there was a big cupboard outside for packages that were too large for the mailbox. My wife would order shoes or books and the package would get put into the bin by USPS. If I got a box of something, I'd get a message that it was being held at the post office for me to come down and get." Is the State trying to tell him something?

Last week, Meredith bought something and it was delivered by UPS to Southampton and placed at the front door. The next day Dennis received a notice that the new antenna for his car was ready to be picked up at the post office. Come on down.

Can anyone explain this?

PROJECTS STALLED

The Town of Southampton continues to be unable to process large civic projects for the public good in a timely fashion. In other towns on the East End, such things go through the system in months. In Southampton it can take years.

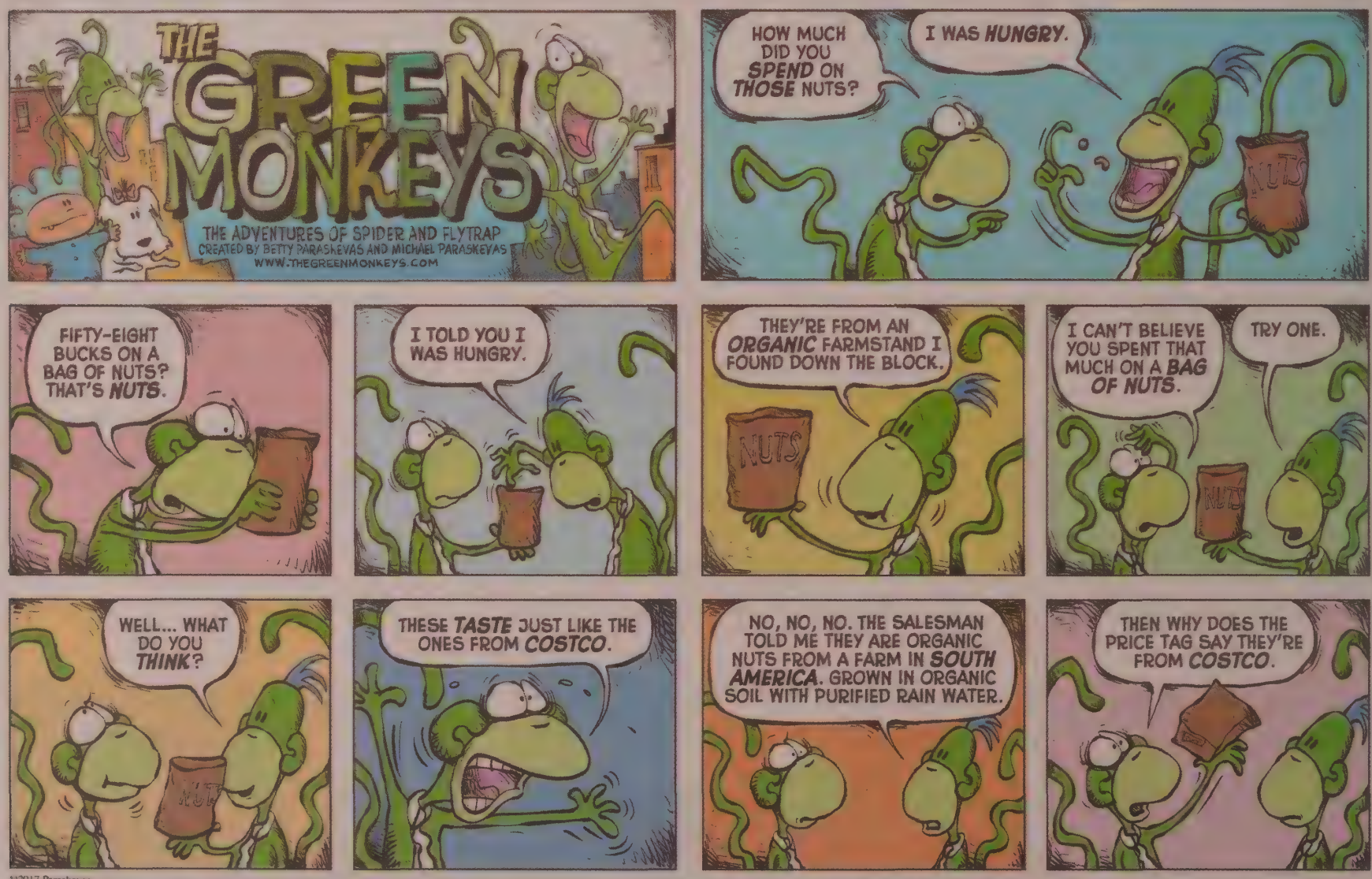
Here are four projects.

Over a year ago, a portion of the former Lobster Grille Inn in Shinnecock Hills was arranged to be preserved as open space never to be built upon, and other parts to be a dock, a boating facility, a shellfish hatchery and maybe a small restaurant. The seller thought they had a deal with the Town. Here it is more than a year later and the project is not moving. According to *The Southampton Press*, the owner is unsure if this will go ahead and is looking elsewhere for a purchaser.

A year ago, some residents nearby to the former, but now closed, Randy's Barber Shop on the corner of Hillcrest Street and North Sea Road in Southampton got together to restore it, not as a barber shop but as an open-to-the-public African-American museum in the town. It had been a beloved place, a center for that community with many stories to tell since opening during the 1940s. So last year, public-spirited citizens worked to get funding for this relatively modest project. Promises were made. But nothing's been done yet.

It seemed a three-way deal was close to being struck more than a year ago to arrange for a former ferry warehouse and dock, along with its horseshoe beach, to be purchased with CPF funds held by Southampton Town. The space was to be turned into a spectacular new waterfront park in the middle of Sag Harbor's downtown. That project, in the works for more than a year, is stalled on a desk in Southampton, too.

Finally, there is the matter of downtown Bridgehampton, which badly needs more streetlights and more visible crosswalks so people won't be injured or killed (one killed over two years ago, another woman injured last December) while crossing the streets. Money was made available by the state a month after the woman was killed. It remains unspent and no project has yet to be voted on by the Town.



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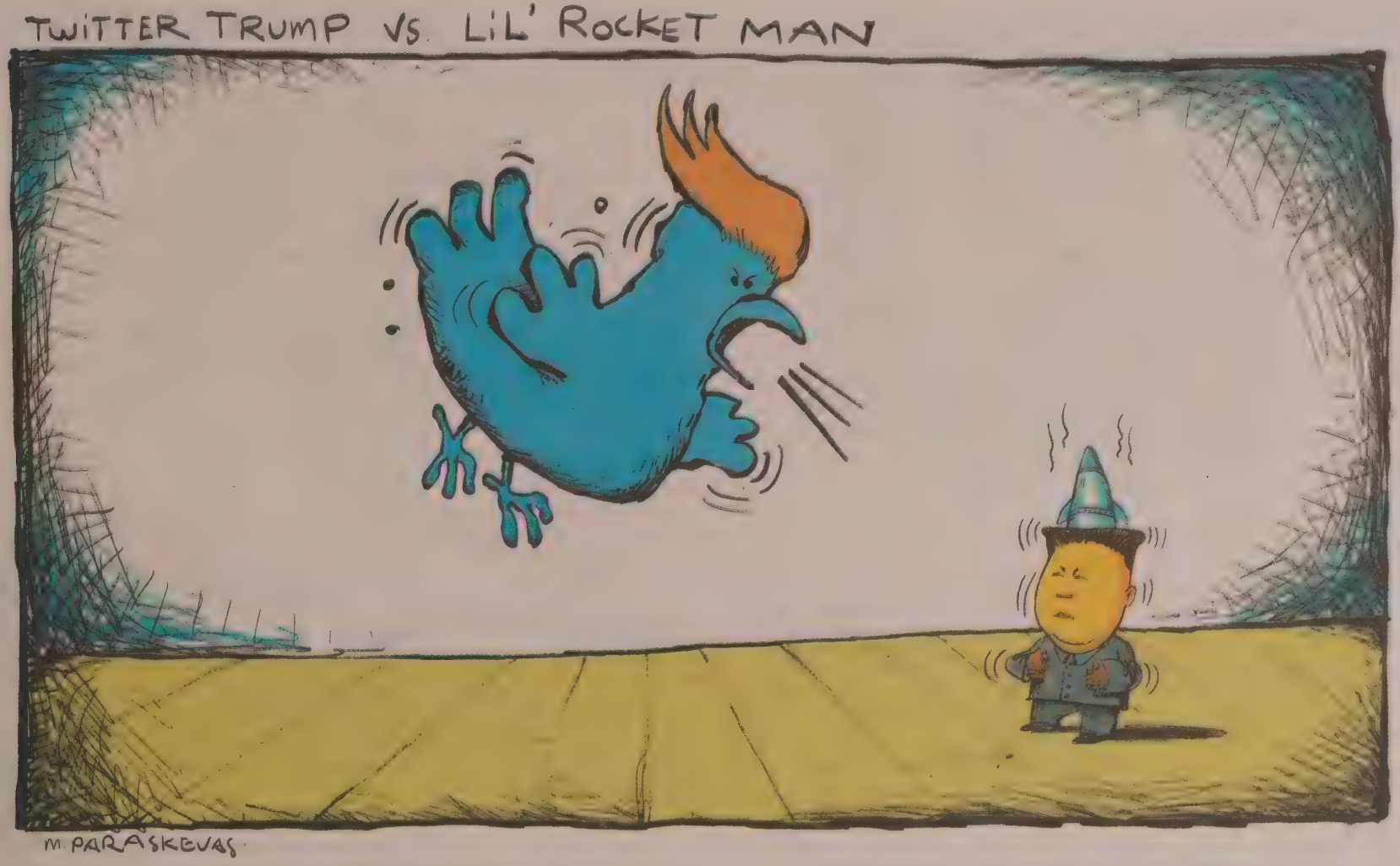


The Big Fight

Four Billion People Watched Trump and Kim Battle on Saturday

BY DAN RATTINER

Wouldn't it be great if countries could settle matters about who wins some disputed land as they used to do in olden times? Members of the two tribes would meet on a field and send out their biggest and strongest warriors. They'd be armed with a spear and a shield, or a sword or a slingshot. They'd fight, maybe to the death, maybe not. The winner's tribe would get the land. They'd rejoice. The losers would slink away, carrying their defeated warrior.

THE WORLD'S BIGGEST SPORTS EVENT EVER

"Welcome, everyone. I am Chet Grimes with my co-anchor Charles McMaster, and we are here at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, Wales—the second-largest indoor arena in the world—to broadcast to you live, the event you have been waiting for, the battle between two undefeated champions, Kim Jong-un of North Korea and Donald Trump of the United States. It's winner-take-all—and "all," of course, means South Korea.

"I'm told that in addition to the more than 100,000 people jamming into this covered stadium meant to hold just 75,000, there are more than 4 billion people watching this live around the world."

"Yes, Chet, this is to be the most-watched event in television history. Never has an event been so anticipated, so advertised and discussed. Ever. At this time, we are waiting for the ring walk of these two gladiators. We'll be right back with that. Right after these messages."

* * *

"And so we're back. The odds makers are all over the place with this one, Charles. It's 6 to 5 for Trump in Las Vegas, in spite of his age, which is a time when few fighters get into the ring. But he is a full heavyweight at 6 foot 3 and 240 pounds. And that should give him a big advantage in the power department.

"But it's another story in North Korea where the odds makers have it 1 to 100 for Kim. He's young, he's wiry, he's fast. I'm told he's been doing bobbing-and-weaving training and punching up. Don't underestimate this young man. He could wear out the heavyweight early and come back to win a decision later."

"There is no decision, Chet. It's either a knockout or the ref stops it. It's a fight to the finish."

"Yes, I forgot about that."

"The spotlights are searching the arena and continually going over to where the fighters will come in. Everybody's screaming. While we're waiting, let's cut to that tape from yesterday at the weigh-in, when the two were nose-to-nose."

"Yes, here it is. Kim in the white trunks with the red missiles on the legs, Trump in the blue trunks with the American flag on the seat of his pants. They're both scowling."

"You can see Kim hunching forward to meet Trump nose-to-nose."

"He's got to lean forward to get over Trump's stomach."

"And he's standing on a tall footstool to get nose-to-nose."

"With diamonds and rubies on it."

"They're shouting. Everybody's shouting."

"Wait a minute, live now, the curtains are beginning to open and Kim will make his way into the ring. Let's get back here. The crowd is going wild. Flags are waving. What an event."

"We'll be right back after these messages."

* * *

"Here comes Kim. He won the toss. He's scowling and looking straight ahead, bouncing up and down to some sort of military music. There are about a dozen soldiers surrounding him with bayonets at the ready. He's starting his walk."

"There it goes."

"What?"

"The rocket. See the smoke behind them? It's a pocket rocket, now it's flying around the arena, way up there under the dome. This is amazing. And Kim doesn't even look up at it. It's circling around. I hope it doesn't drop anything. And now it's come back above Kim and it's settling down on its tail, just in front of him, right there on the carpet. The engines are turned off. Kim gives it a little pat. What a feat. He's looking menacingly at the audience. One half the stadium rises. *(Continued on next page)*

Fight *(Continued from previous page)*

I think he cracked a smile. He's at ringside, and now he's climbed up the stairs. All these generals are holding the ropes open and he ducks through, and now he is bouncing around in his corner. He's broken a sweat. A good sign. Better to not be dry before a fight."

"He really is a strange-looking man."

"What did he say at the weigh-in?"

"Trump snarled 'Rocket Man, I'll knock you to the moon.' Then Kim said, 'Lunatic loser…' but nobody could hear the rest."

"Too much cursing."

"It was in Korean. Everybody has been interpreting it on Twitter."

"We'll be right back after these messages."

"Did you see where they cut to President Moon of South Korea in the audience? He stood on cue. He was clapping."

* * *

"Well, the red curtains open again and there is Donald Trump, blue trunks. Black socks for some reason."

"I'm told they are his lucky socks."

"He's not moving yet, just bouncing up and down, now he's turned away to show off the American flag on the back of his trunks, wiggling his behind. Now he's turned around. You see how big he really is in comparison to Kim. It doesn't seem fair. He's raised his arms over his head. He's just wearing the trunks, the socks and a red baseball cap."

"He's headed toward the ring. He's got an enormous entourage. Maybe 200 people. Everybody who ever worked for him in the White House, now or fired. Isn't this something?"

"Everybody's trailing behind, smiling and waving"

"Trump is chanting 'America First, America First,' he's trying to get everybody to join the chant."

"Fat chance of that here in Wales."

"He's entering the ring now. He's also bouncing up and down, staring across the ring."

"I've seen that look before."

"Did anyone see if President Moon was clapping?"

"We'll be right back, Chet, with the playing of the national anthems and the introduction of the fighters."

* * *

"The Star Spangled Banner" is sung by a spry but aging Tony Bennett. Trump sternly demands everybody stand, and they do. President Moon, in the front row, stands, sings and claps. Trump seems to approve.

Some pretty woman in a gauzy dress comes into the ring and sings the North Korean anthem. It goes on and on. In the front row, President Moon stands and also sings. After 12 minutes, Chet announces, "we have to go to commercial now, and so we leave in mid-anthem." Twenty-two commercials follow and we return to the ring, where the anthem is still going on but now is winding down.

"Okay, okay, I'm told we're going up to the ring shortly for Michael Buffer to do the introductions."

The anthem ends, there is long applause and then the bell rings three times. The spotlight waves over the center of the ring. Michael Buffer, with wavy white hair, appears with two girls in bikinis, one on each side, one from Korea and one from America.

Kim in the white trunks with the red missles, Trump in the blue trunks with the American flag on the seat. They're both scowling.

"Ladies and gentlemen and everybody watching around the world. Here we go. Two undefeated champions. Let's get ready to RUMBLE!!!"

The lights flash and the crowd goes wild.

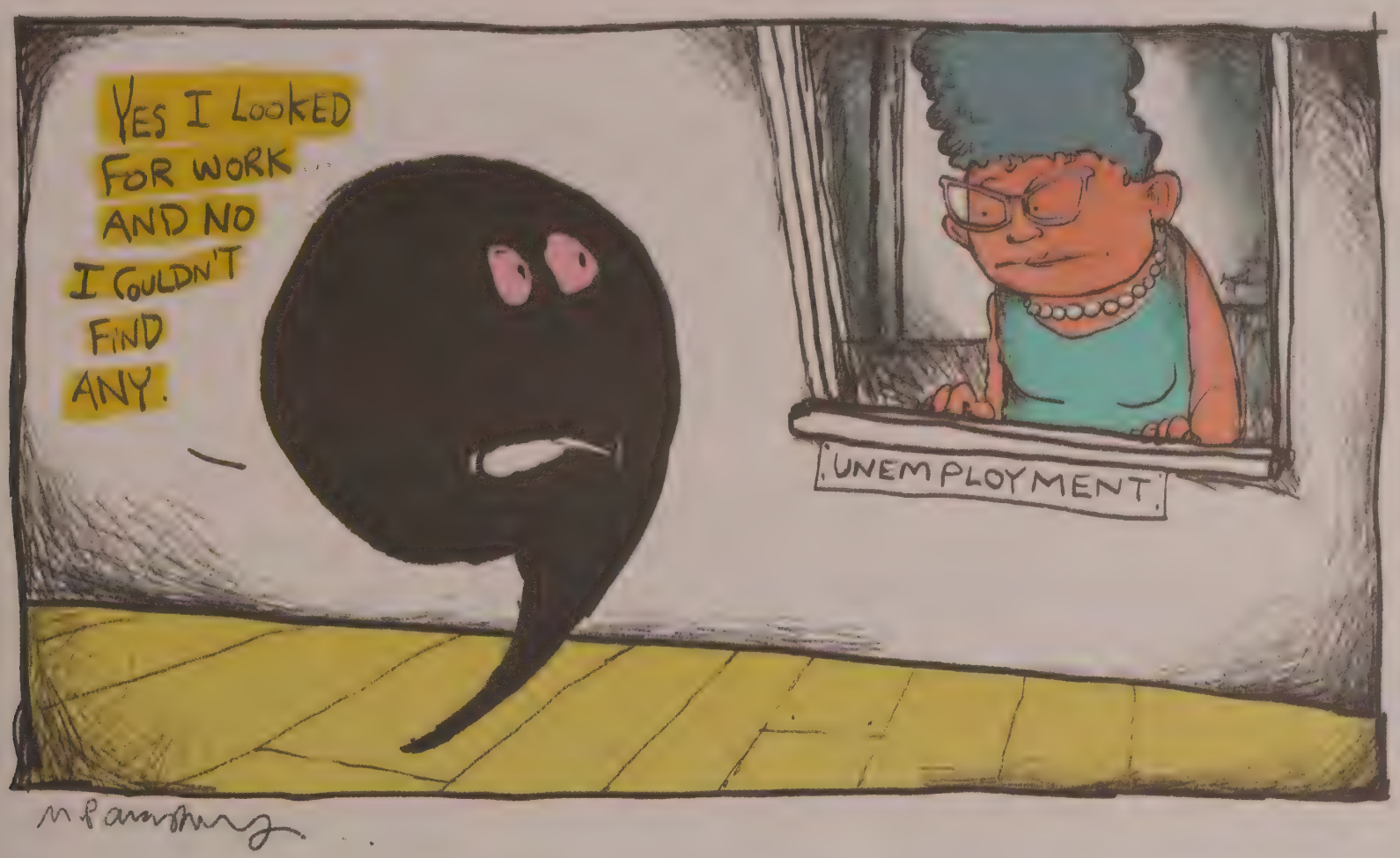
"In the red corner, on my right, we have the undefeated Kim Jong-Un, standing 5 feet 7¼ inches tall and weighing in at 163½ pounds, from Pyongyang, North Korea, with a sensational professional record of 187 wins and no defeats, with all 187 wins coming by way of knockout…."

"Chet, they say he poisons most of them."

"The Chairman and Supreme Leader of the People's Republic of Korea, KIM JONG-UN!!!"

Kim steps forward, scowls, raises one arm in a stiff fascist salute with a red boxing glove at the top and dances around.

"And in the blue corner, also undefeated, originally from New *(Continued on page 20)*



The Oxford Comma

Failing to Put One in Gets a $5 Million Settlement for Three Workers

BY DAN RATTINER

A battle about the use of a comma has wended its way through the court system for four years in Maine. One court ruled for one side. A higher court ruled for the other. Some hoped it would be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court—imagine the Supreme Court debating when and when not to use a comma—but it is not to be. The litigants settled for $5 million two weeks ago. It was midway between what one side wanted and what the other side wanted. But the litigants were exhausted with it all. Thus the settlement.

Commas are important in the lives of writers. Writing this newspaper for the last 58 years, I ought to know. I've used several million of them, maybe even billions. I've also, on occasion, decided NOT to use millions and billions of them. I get along with commas one way or the other. We are friends.

But boy, can they can get you in trouble.

Need proof? My wife has a T-shirt whose first line reads LET'S EAT, GRANDMA. Under it is a second line that reads LET'S EAT GRANDMA. Take your pick.

Commas are powerful stuff.

On one side of this case were three truck drivers seeking overtime pay. On the other were the owners of a dairy in Maine called Oakhurst. The owners were following the rules of a state law that says workers were entitled to overtime pay of time-and-a-half when they worked more than 40 hours. But there were exceptions.

Not eligible for overtime was the time spent "canning, processing, preserving, freezing, drying, marketing, storing, packing for shipment or distribution of" agricultural produce, meat, fish products and perishable foods.

It is not known who among the three truck drivers or their friends noticed something odd about this sentence. There was no comma after "shipment." Clearly "packing for shipment" was exempt from overtime, as was time spent "canning, processing, preserving, freezing, drying, marketing and storing."

So, like "let's eat grandma," it could mean that packing for shipment was exempt, but the trucking of what was packed to ship was not. Try it yourself.

"(exempt are)...packing for shipment or distribution..."

"(exempt are)...packing for shipment, or distribution..."

This distinction must have been picked up by someone who lives by the Oxford Rules of Punctuation. Put that comma in there. Most people do not. Having that extra comma is awkward and clumsy. They live by a different set of Rules of Punctuation.

In court, the lawyers for the truckers also pointed out that everything before the shipment contained a gerund. Aha! You don't know what a gerund is? It is when a verb gets to function as a noun by adding a few letters at the end, which, in this case, is the ending "ing." All the "ing" things clearly were exempt. Freezing, marketing, drying, storing but then, suddenly shipment. If it said "shipping" there would be no problem. The comma wouldn't even have to come into play. But it read "shipment." And without the comma, this opened the barn door to the truckers getting overtime once the packing for shipment was completed and they were out to their trucks heading off to the supermarkets.

They were asking for back overtime pay for four years.

A lower court, several years ago, ruled for the company. The truckers wouldn't be getting the overtime pay. But an appeals court last year reversed it. It said that without the comma, the interpretation was ambiguous—it could mean either exempt or not exempt. And it was the opinion of the court that where such ambiguity exists, the decision should go to the workers, not the bosses. So it did. That's what kind of state Maine is.

The legislature of the state of Maine, as a result of this, modified the law. It now reads "the canning; processing; preserving; freezing; drying; marketing; storing; packing for shipment; or distribution of ..."

This is horrible. Nobody uses semi-colons anymore. They are the dungeon chains of the grammarian world. Proper grammarians today, Oxford or not, enter essays with fly swatters to get rid of them. Now, here are new semi-colons up in Maine rearing their ugly beady eyed heads.

Oh God. Or, better yet, "Oh, God."

Fight (Continued from page 18)

York City, now fighting out of Washington D.C., Donald Trump, the President of the United States. He is 6 feet, 3 inches tall and he weighed in at 240 pounds, and also has an undefeated record of 82 wins and 0 defeats, with all 82 wins by knockout…"

"Chet, he calls them 'conquests.' What does he mean by that?"

"I don't know, Charles. Did Moon stand?"

"I don't know, Chet."

The referee calls the fighters to the center of the ring. There is no stare-down. Trump looks over Kim's hedgerow hair, Kim looks into the top of Trump's stomach.

"…so follow my instructions, let's have a fair fight and good luck to both of you. Shake now and come out fighting."

The fighters tap boxing gloves and go back to their corners to wait for the bell.

ROUND ONE

Trump and Kim come out and try jabbing each other. Kim ducks all of them. Kim's jabs don't reach Trump. Trump tries several haymakers but they all go over Kim's head. The crowd boos for the lack of activity in this round. Trump returns to his corner, all out of breath. But he refuses to sit on the stool. "I will not sit on the flag," he says. Kim returns to his corner, sits on his stool with his arms on the ropes, and two slaves in diapers and headdresses come into the ring and wave giant feathers at him to cool him down.

"I think they're from Malaysia, Chet."

ROUND TWO

Trump and Kim come out and again try jabbing with each other. As this continues to not work, they finally fall into a clinch, which the referee has trouble getting them to give up. Both are clutching the other's hair. When they start up again, they again clinch and grab each other's hair. They are pulling each other around the ring by their hair. Again the referee breaks them, but this time wiggles his index finger at both of them as a warning.

"You're fired," Trump says. The crowd goes wild. Trump holds up a glove and points its thumb toward the exit at the back of the stadium. The referee leaves the ring and walks out to a chorus of boos. Another referee appears and climbs into the ring.

"Chet, they were expecting this. They've got five lined up."

Suddenly, as Kim is distracted, Trump throws a haymaker that lands right on Kim's jaw, staggering him. Trump moves in for the kill, but Kim tries an uppercut that, though apparently intended for Trump's groin, hits him in the kneecap. Trump limps around. The new referee grabs Kim by the wrist, lifts him off the ground with one arm and, with the other, raises an index finger to indicate that it is a one point deduction. "Low blow" he shouts. More screaming from the crowd.

But this has given Kim time to recover, and as Trump moves in again, Kim is ready. Trump pulls back to fire a giant haymaker. And so does Kim. Each lands on the other's jaw at the exact same time, and both, together, fall to the ground, Trump landing on his butt and then falling to his side, and Kim simply straight back. The slaves come in but the referee waves them back out. The referee doesn't know what to do. He counts to 10 then looks to the ring apron for officials to give him instructions. People start throwing things into the ring, and everyone runs for cover, except for the two participants, who, in the end, have to be taken off unconscious on stretchers.

"I've never seen anything like this before, Chet. They're throwing beer bottles."

"I think it means rematch."

"We'll be right back."

"Have you seen President Moon?"

* * *

"Can we get him over here right now?"

"We're here in the Trump dressing room and it's pretty chaotic, but here he comes."

"Are you all right?"

"Why shouldn't I be all right?"

"Well then, the question everyone wants to know is, will you do a rematch?"

"Of course not. I won. Hit him fair and square and down came the Rocket Man."

"But with what happened to you…"

"That was the biggest punch I have ever thrown. I hit him so hard, I blacked out there for a moment or two."

"But…"

"No rematch. And where's South Korea? Where's that Mr. Moon guy?"

"We'll be right back."

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This Week's Cover Artist: Mickey Paraskevas

BY BRIAN CUDZILO

Mickey Paraskevas has been creating covers for *Dan's Papers* since *Dan's Papers* has had covers—30 years. He's also written and illustrated his own books, and those of others. Most recently, Paraskevas released the beautiful *Poetry for Kids: Robert Frost.*

How did this book come together?

I was given the poems that were to be included, read through them in a few days and scribbled my initial thoughts on a yellow legal pad. At first the book was supposed to be only five full-page paintings and a few spots for the other poems. I did a rough layout of what I wanted the painting to reflect and the editors thought I was right on target. The book took several months to paint and it's all on canvas. I painted my last book, *Mr. Moon*, on the computer. So it was nice to go back to painting on linen. They're all in my studio. I'm waiting for the right place to have a show of them all.

Do you have a favorite poem/painting pairing in the book?

I really like all of them. There are a few I wish I could do over, but I didn't have the time. I know that sounds silly, but I'm a perfectionist and illustration requires time constraints. If I had to pick two of them, the one with all the papers blowing off the desk is my wife's favorite. So that's not for sale. I also like the dog looking off into the distance by the tree with the snow falling. That's my mother-in-law's dog, Wrenford. He's the best.

Do you have a favorite Robert Frost poem?

There are so many good ones. Everyone likes "The Road Not Taken" but in this book I like "Ghost House." I liked the painting too.

Why, in your opinion, is it important to expose children to poetry and art?

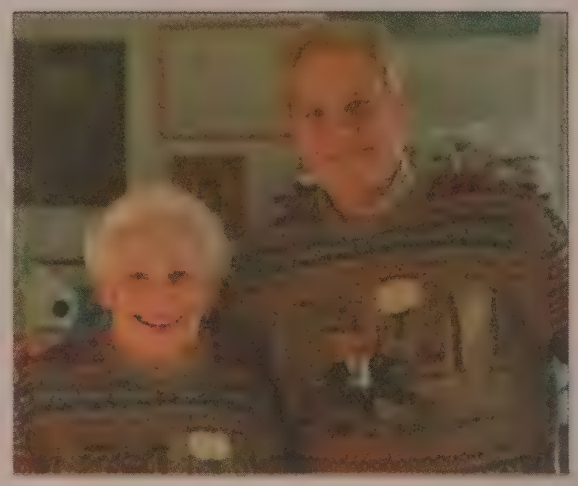
My mother and father took my sister and me to more Broadway shows when we were growing up than movies. I have fond memories of meeting Debbie Reynolds one day. I even met Ruby Keeler. I was in L.A. once and bumped into Billy Dee Williams and got a huge smile out of him when I told him I'd seen him on Broadway in *Hallelujah Baby* in 1967. I still can't get that smile out of my head. He was beaming ear-to-ear. You should take kids to everything.

If you could have coffee with one poet, or one other painter, who would it be?

I wish I could talk to Robert Weaver again. He died in 1994 and was the best teacher I had in graduate school. I have lots of questions to ask him. I would also like to talk to my wonderful mother again. There are so many times I still want to shout downstairs, "Hey, Betty, turn on the news." She died in 2010. [She's] very missed by my wife, too. Besides writing some of the best scripts for *Maggie and the Ferocious Beast*, she was the funniest voice on our puppet show, *The Cheap Show*. You can still find it online.

What else is keeping you busy?

I'll be giving a talk at the Southampton Arts



Mickey Paraskevas with his "matching" mother-in-law

Center for the East End Collected4 show with a group of other artists on April 29 at 4 p.m. I'll show some slides and hope to be somewhat entertaining. The show runs March 31 to May 20. I'll also have some paintings at Messina's in Westhampton Beach. I'm currently writing a new pilot script for a revival of *Maggie and the Ferocious Beast* and I'm illustrating a new book called *A Big Slice of Pie*. I love pie. It's for Nettie's Bakery in Center Moriches. That should be out next fall if I can get it all done. I might do a book of cartoons to celebrate my 30 years at Dan's Papers but I might have to wait for the 50th year. We'll see.

See more of Paraskevas's work at michaelparaskevas.com.

The illustration for "Ghost House"

The illustration for "To The Thawing Wind"

HOME
What happening around your house?

HOUSE & HOME GUIDE

COMING SOON
Is your home ready for summer guests?

Make Your East End Home Summer Ready

The countdown to summer begins. If, before you can get comfortable in your summer digs, you need some work done—a cabinet here, a new paint job there—you've come to the right place.

Sometimes a home isn't the only thing that needs to be fixed…. The **Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons** (ARF) will be hosting Lucky in Love, an after-hours adoption event and vaccine clinic offering low cost vaccines to the community on Friday, March 16 from 4–8 p.m. ARF will be offering rabies, DA2PP, Bordetella, FVRCP and microchipping for $10 each in addition to giveaways and a photo booth. Cats and dogs only. 124 Daniels Hole Road, Wainscott. *arfhamptons.org*, 631-537-0400

Ciuffo Cabinetry's Vice President, Joe Ciuffo, was recently inducted into the 2018 Class of 30 Under 30 by National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA). The NKBA CEO said in the statement, "This group of outstanding young professionals represents the future of the industry." Sounds like the type of place you'd trust to realize your remodeling dream, right? They also have an in-house install team, which coordinates with all contractors and sub-contractors on site. As if those facts aren't enough: Ciuffo Cabinetry has been filling the custom cabinetry needs of Long Island and the Tri-State area for more than 100 years—since when Woodrow Wilson was president. *631-586-5976, ciuffocabinetry.com*

If you need to move some things out of your home before the rental season beings (or maybe you're moving, either within the Hamptons or to the Hamptons), **Despatch of Southampton Moving and Storage** has the experience you're looking for. Since 1957 this Dan's Papers Best of the Best company has moved thousands of families on the East End and now maintains two full-service storage facilities, one in Southampton and another in Bridgehampton. After making a name for itself as a family-operated business, word spread of its professional and friendly service. Soon it satisfied customers in New York City and throughout the Tri-State area. *631-283-3000, despatchmovers.com*

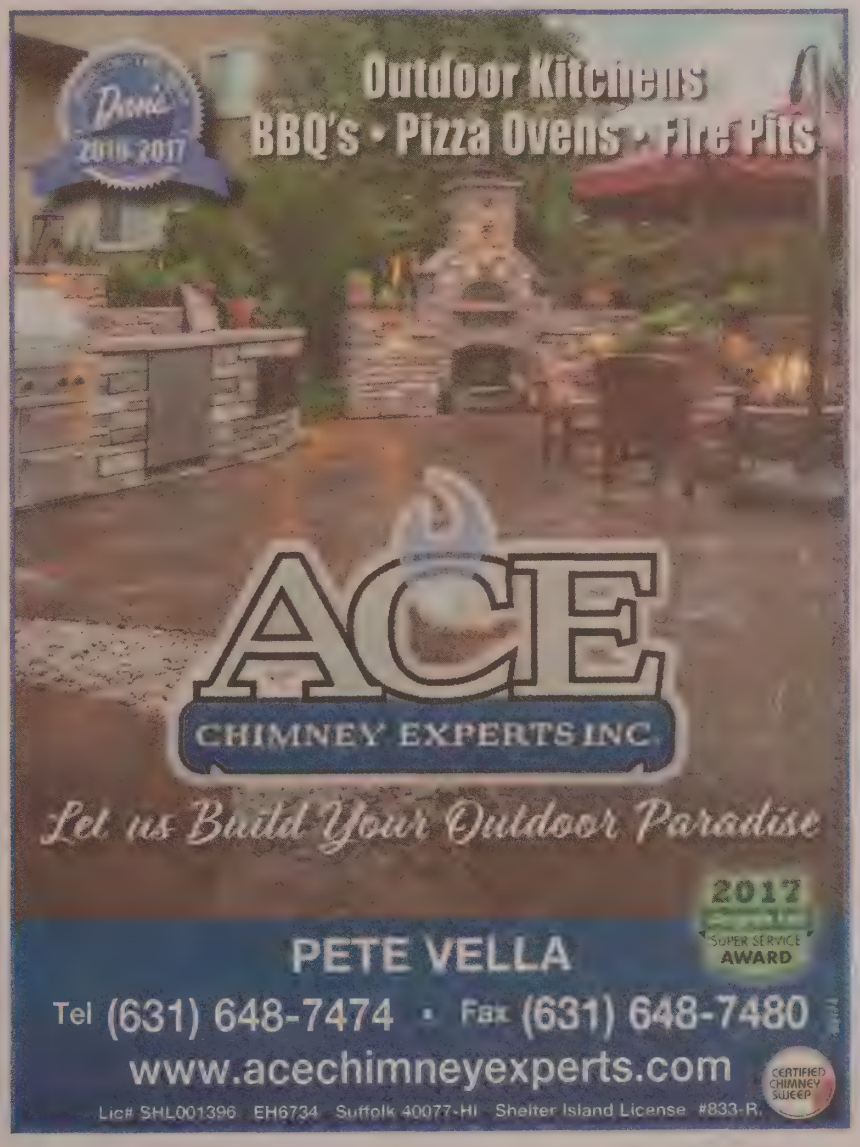
Queens-born John Fasano is a decorative artist by trade. After studying interior decorative finishing in New York, Fasano went into business for himself. Today, he continues to work for interior designers, builders and architects from his studio in East Hampton. What sets **Fasano Painting** apart is its stunning decorative interior painting, the hand-painted ceilings and the spray system for slat board walls and coffered ceilings, which leave a brushless finish. Fasano will even do hand-painted murals. *johnfasano.com*

With 15 years of experience, Wilmer Gutierrez, owner of **Gutierrez Home Improvement Inc.**, will personally estimate your projects (for free), supervise work on a day-to-day basis and consult with you on every aspect of the job from start to finish. Gutierrez Home Improvement Inc. offers a wide variety of interior and exterior services to renovate your home or business, including, but not limited to, kitchen remodeling, all phases of painting, decks, siding, framing, sheet rock, power wash and trim work. No project is ever too big or too small. *631-664-5191, gutierrezhomeimprovement.com*

Are you building a new home? Looking for the right company to do your remodel? Or maybe you're looking to renovate a commercial space? **JJ Carpentry & Construction**, with more than 20 years experience, has a skilled team of builders who can take your construction project from start to finish. Check out their website, *j-jcarpentry.com*, for picture galleries showing some of their great work. There's even a gallery of tree houses…. *Call Juan at 917-684-5275 or Jose at 631-561-5563.*

With an unparalleled reputation for exceptionally high standards and nearly 60 years of experience, family-owned **Trunzo Building Contractors** has executed work for both locally and nationally recognized architects. Trunzo operates their own 8,000-square-foot woodworking, millwork, cabinet and furniture shop right in East Hampton to produce the custom moldings, doors, cabinets, stairs, garden structures, furniture and architectural woodworking that go into the homes they build. *585-324-5025, trunzobuilding.com*

Find more house and home solutions at DansPapers.com



ON STAGE
Long Island's own Blue Öyster Cult

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ART EVENTS
Openings, closings see and be seen.

BÖC Is Burnin' For You at Suffolk Theater

BY DANIEL KOONTZ

What started on Long Island more than 50 years ago and is still going strong? If you answered Dan's Papers, you'd be correct. If you answered Blue Öyster Cult, you'd also be correct. And you're reading it right here in *Dan's Papers*: Blue Öyster Cult is coming back to Long Island to play at Suffolk Theater in Riverhead on March 2 at 8 p.m. Get ready for a night of heavy, heady hard rock, featuring great BÖC hits.

How Long Island is BÖC? When singer and guitarist Donald "Buck Dharma" Roeser first started the band in 1967, they lived in a band house near Stony Brook University. They were calling themselves Soft White Underbelly in those early years. By the time singer and guitarist Eric Bloom joined Soft White Underbelly, in April 1969, they were located in the Great Neck area, using another rental house as a band space. "I was the tenant in the house, and we used the basement for rehearsing," says Bloom. "We weren't too popular with the neighbors."

The Stony Brook University connection extended through the band's early years. "Our manager Sandy Pearlman was also student body president at the University," says Bloom. Pearlman, along with Richard Meltzer, another Stony Brook undergraduate, contributed poetry and lyrical ideas for use in the band's songs. Meltzer went on to become a noted rock music writer. "They were very literate, and we were lucky to have portfolios of their lyrics to use," says Bloom. In fact, the name Blue Öyster Cult, which the band adopted before their major label debut in 1972, was derived from a poem by Pearlman.

But before the major label debut came several years of hardscrabble work for the band, playing nightclubs in the city and in the Nassau County area. "We played any place we could," recalls Bloom. "If a club only had room for three people on stage (the band had five members), we'd take it anyway. Sometimes we'd get offers to play Friday and Saturday, and after the show on Friday night the club owner would tell us not to come back for the next night." The band soldiered on, touring relentlessly and building a following for their heavy but somehow quirky music.

Eventually, the band won over Clive Davis at Columbia Records and proceeded to release a string of bestselling records. '70s and '80s BÖC shows featured elaborate stage props and some of rock music's first uses of lasers in performance.

Still, for all of the literate poetic background of their lyricists and all of the stagecraft that came to define the band, Bloom says that it's really three songs, written entirely by Donald "Buck Dharma" Roeser, that account for Blue Öyster Cult's continued success. "Ultimately, it's 'Godzilla,' '(Don't Fear) The Reaper' and 'Burnin' for You' that put us on the map. That's what most people really want to hear."

Most people, but not everybody. Bloom laughs as he notes that about 10 years ago, BÖC was contracted to play a private concert for a group of hardcore fans of their music. "They didn't want to hear the hits," says Bloom. "They wanted the deep tracks." It was actually in the contract that the band would NOT play 'Godzilla,' '(Don't Fear) The Reaper' or 'Burnin' for You!'

Courtesy Suffolk Theater

The boys are back in town!

Bloom says the audience at Suffolk Theater will get a mix of BÖC's hits along with some deeper cuts. "We always write a set list for a particular audience," he says. "We're able to whip out some arcane stuff if it's called for." The band's home crowd wouldn't want it any other way.

Blue Öyster Cult plays Suffolk Theater March 2 at 8 p.m. 118 East Main Street, Riverhead. 631-727-4343, suffolktheater.com

SUFFOLK THEATER
Blue Öyster Cult
FRIDAY, MARCH 2
FRIDAY, MARCH 16TH
NIGHT FEVER: BEE GEES TRIBUTE
SATURDAY, MARCH 17TH
LORDS OF 52ND ST - BILLY JOEL'S ORIGINAL BAND
SUNDAY, MARCH 18TH
MARSHALL TUCKER BAND
FRIDAY, MARCH 23RD
DOO WOP NIGHT - THE BELMONTS & THE DIAMONDS
FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH
DAVE DAVIES OF THE KINKS
SATURDAY, MARCH 31ST
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Improv Comedy
with
THE STOWAWAYS

ALL NEW IMPROV SHOW
Saturday, March 3 @ 8 pm

ALL NEW!
ALL STAR STAND-UP COMEDY
FRIDAY, MARCH 23 @ 8 PM
THAWFEST WEEKEND!
Hosted by comedian JOSEFH VECSEY

JAMES MYERS

CLAYTON FLETCHER

WELLIE JACKSON

Goat on a Boat @ Bay Street
11 am Showtime

Saturday, March 3
Snowflake Man

Sunday, March 4
3:30-5:30 pm
The Bambini Ball

Saturday, March 10
The Puppet Princess

Saturday, March 17
Little Red Ridinghood

Saturday, March 24
Puppets Around the World

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TOYS
For kids and kids at heart.

LIFESTYLE

CALENDAR
What to do where to do it.

2018 Hamptons Summer: Beach Games & More

BY OLIVER PETERSON

Toy Fair 2018 concluded last week, but we came away with all sorts of new innovations, and outdoor toys and games to make summer a blast for you and your kids in the Hamptons. Have a look at some of our fun finds below.

Wicked Body Bubble Ball

What do you call something that's both ridiculous and awesome? Ridiculously awesome, of course! Based in the UK, Wicked's absurd and totally fun inflatable suit (pictured) surrounds the wearer's body with a bubble of air, allowing him or her to bump into things and bounce around like Violet Beauregarde in a crowd of Oompa Loompas. For the full experience, though, two people need to wear these bloated getups and battle it out, sumo style. Even better—gear up two beach-football teams and play some gargantuan gridiron. *wickedmania.com*

MorfBoard

This modular skateboard/scooter/balance board/pogo board earned some well-deserved buzz this year. Like many of the products we saw, the MorfBoard surprised us. It seamlessly transforms between the various available transport options with a few swift "lock and release" motions—no screwdriver or wrench required. Whether it's for one kid with multiple interests, a few kids who like different things, or a child who graduates up from scooter to bounce board to skateboard, each MorfBoard form works as well as the other.

A snow option is already in the works, but who knows what else these things could do? The company gave a MorfBoard to some professional skaters, and while they had to customize it with some grip tape—which is simple—the guys proved it can stand up to legit tricks. The included wheels and trucks can also be replaced with any standard skateboard setup (with the help of tools). *morfboard.com*

Goblies Throwable Paintballs

The odd but alluring Goblies throwable paintballs are exactly what you'd expect. Made from seaweed, these bursting projectiles are fully biodegradable but leave a nice colorful splat when striking their intended target. Even better, a mistakenly dropped Goblies ball didn't break on the floor. The company, created by Briana Gardell while in graduate school and successfully Kickstarted in 2015, also makes washable, biodegradable paint for water guns. *goblies.com*

Funsparks Wireless Speaker

It's very rare to find an inexpensive wireless speaker that produces quality sound that's also loud enough to actually hear in situations where we'd actually use it, but this adorable Funsparks unit packs a crisp punch! Encased in water-resistant rubber, the speaker is smaller than a dollar bill when fully extended, and it hangs easily on bicycle handlebars, cooler handles, a belt loop, a shower faucet—whatever! For just under $20, this is a great buy for anyone looking to enjoy headphone-less summer tunes on the go. *funsparks.com*

How wicked is a body bubble?

O. Peterson

Bolaball Wooden Games

The Bolaball company offers a range of outdoor games, but we were especially impressed by the line of heirloom wooden products, such as an oversized Jenga set, huge wooden dice, and the Swedish game Kubb (pronounced "Koob") featuring blocks, sticks and a king piece which must be knocked down. They also offer an array of outdoor games like cornhole, washer toss and Rollers—combining bocce and horseshoes—invented by a U.S. military veteran.

Additonally, for adults, Bolaball makes a Beer Pong set. You can use a standard Ping-Pong ball or heavier green ball for outdoor action. Imagine never having to chase scattered cups again! *bolaball.com*

Find more games and toys on DansPapers.com.

Hamptons Happenings »»»»

Have a look at just some of the fun events happening in the Hamptons and on the North Fork this week.

ON STRIKE
Screening: The Divine Order
When: March 2, 6 p.m.
Where: Southampton Arts Center
25 Jobs Lane, Southampton
What: The Hamptons International Film Festival presents the winner of the Audience Award for Best Narrative Film at the Tribeca Film Festival. The film is set in 1971 Switzerland where, despite the worldwide social upheavals of the previous decade, women were still denied the right to vote and must go on strike to force change. Tickets $10.
Contact: 631-283-0967, southamptonartscenter.org

SHAMROCK SHINDIG
WHB St. Patrick's Day Parade Fundraiser
When: March 3, 7 p.m.
Where: The Claddagh
141 Montauk Highway, Westhampton Beach
What: Considered one of the East End's best winter parties. Almost $20,000 in cash and prizes will be awarded through raffles. Tickets are $20 at the door, cash bar.
Contact: whbstpats.com

THE ORIGINAL A-LIST
Legendary Women of Long Island
When: March 8, 1 p.m.
Where: Rogers Memorial Library
91 Coopers Farm Road, Southampton
What: Monica Randall will speak about the celebrated hostesses Ann Woodward, Millicent Rogers, Barbara Hutton and Alva Vanderbilt, who were the first American superstars to see their lives, loves and scandals play out in newspapers across the country. Free admission.
Contact: 631-283-0774 myrml.org

Kid Stuff
Kids events on the East End.

SOUTHAMPTON IDOL
5th Annual Hamptons Got Talent Competition
When: March 2, 7–10 p.m.
Where: Hampton Bays High School, 88 Argonne Road East, Hampton Bays
What: Students in grades 5–12 will showcase their talents in music & dance and compete for prizes. Admission is $10 and all are welcome.
Contact: 631-702-2425, southamptontownny.gov

THE BLUES
Blue-Spotted Salamander Search
When: March 3, 7:30 p.m.
Where: South Fork Natural History Museum, 377 Bridgehampton/Sag Harbor Turnpike, Bridgehampton
What: Join tour guide Andy on this nighttime expedition as he searches for this unique native species. This walk will take place only if there have been heavy rains. $10 for kids 6–12 and $15 for adults.
Contact: 631-537,9735, sofo.org

For more events visit Events.DansPapers.com

EAST END ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADES

Saturday, March 10

Westhampton Beach St. Patrick's Day Parade
Noon. Grand Marshal Pete Cuthbert. Mill Road from Oneck Lane to Main Street.

Am O'Gansett Parade
Noon. Grand Marshal Dell Cullum. Starts at Mary's Marvelous and ends at Stephen Talkhouse on Main Street, Amagansett.

Cutchogue St. Patrick's Day Parade
2 p.m. Grand Marshal Paul Connor. Starts at Cox Lane traffic light, runs down Route 25 and ends in Cutchogue village.

Sunday, March 11

Friends of St. Patrick Parade
1 p.m. Grand Marshal Andrew J. Streeff. Starts at 159 Harrison Avenue, Miller Place and ends at 626 North Country Road, Rocky Point.

Center Moriches St. Patrick's Day Parade
2 p.m. Grand Marshal Keith Caputo. Starts at corner of Main Street and Lake Avenue and ends on Ocean Avenue.

Sunday, March 18

Patchogue St. Patrick's Day Parade
Noon. Grand Marshal David Kennedy. Starts at corner of Route 112 & Main Street and turns onto West Avenue.

Saturday, March 24

Hampton Bays Hibernians St. Patrick's Day Parade
11 a.m. Grand Marshal Fergus Scully. Starts at Hampton Bays Elementary School and ends at Hampton Atrium.

Jamesport East End Emerald Society St. Patrick's Day Parade
1 p.m. Grand Marshal Sean Walter. Starts on the corner of North Railroad Avenue and Washington Avenue and ends at the Jamesport Fire Department.

Sunday, March 25

Montauk Friends of Erin St. Patrick's Day Parade
11:30 a.m. Grand Marshal Kathleen Keller. Runs on Edgemere Road and turns onto Main Street.

WINE
See what's "cooking" now.

FOOD & DINING

FAVES
Where to rave while dining out.

Local Organic Winemaker in His Own Words

BY ANTHONY NAPPA WITH STACY DERMONT

When one of the North Fork's top winemakers told me that he was about to release the East End's first fully organic wine last week, I asked him to tell his story in his own words.

Winemaker Anthony Nappa creates wines from East End harvests for his namesake, Anthony Nappa Wines, and for Raphael, both based in Peconic. Producing local, organic wines is a huge accomplishment in our wet region's cool climate. Eager oenophiles are lining up for this long-awaited locavore libation.

As Nappa says, "For all of the wines we currently make, as well as all the wines I make for Raphael Vineyards, we don't use any additives, so moving into organic certification wasn't difficult for me as it was already the way that I make wine. This could not have been possible without the hard work and perseverance of grower Rex Farr. We are truly grateful for the synergy that exists between us.

"Rex has endured many difficulties over the last eight years growing grapes organically and biodynamically, [which was] once thought impossible on the East End. Rex Farr Vineyard is the only Certified Organic Vineyard on Long Island.

"He grows 7.5 acres of grapes including cab franc, merlot, malbec, petit verdot and carménère, so we have those varietals to work with. Red grapes give me a lot of stylistic possibility. When Rex was able to bring in a consistent harvest I knew that I wanted to be a part of it, but I told him I would only do it if we went all the way and certified the wines.

"I've always made wine in the most natural way possible and I enjoy making the wines I currently make, but I also enjoy new challenges and the opportunity to do something nobody has done before. It's part of my lifestyle to try to be a good steward of the land.

S. Dermont

East Coast's first organic rosé

"We've two wines in current production: Bordo Antico, a cabernet franc; and La Strega, a malbec. Both are NOFA-NY Certified Organic grapes.

I currently have a carménère in barrel that is small production and will only be available to our wine club. We hope to always have more wines in the works—it really depends on the vintage.

"Last year we produced the first wine made with NOFA-NY Certified Organic grapes (Bordo Antico) and this year we have made the first USDA Certified Organic Wine made on the East Coast. The difference is that [last year's] wine was made with organic grapes. Now we've made an organic wine with organic grapes in a certified winery, meaning no sulfites for preservation—a rosé named Rosato.

"Rosato is a dark and savory style rosé, so there are many possibilities for pairings. We love the fresh seafood we get on the East End. My wife Sarah is a chef and I love her Peconic Bay Scallop Crudo with Shisito Vinaigrette paired with Rosato, which she prepared for a pop-up event for our wine club.

"Sarah has also been baking bread and making cheese on our farm. La Strega pairs wonderfully with her sweet potato bread and raw milk camembert. Bordo Antico is a go-to when we have local pork from our friend Tom Hart at Deep Roots Farm.

"My wife and I purchased a small farm in Southold a little over two years ago. Even before the farm, we always had an extensive garden and kept bees and chickens. Now we have expanded to more acreage, which means more eggs, milk, honey, fruit and vegetables for use in our Farmstead B&B, which is exclusive to our wine club members.

"We've launched a new brand for our reserve wines which is named after our farm—The Shared Table Farm wines (shown on next page) are only available to our wine club, and all of our wines can be tasted and purchased at our retail store—The Winemaker Studio in Peconic."

The Winemaker Studio, 2885 Peconic Lane, Peconic, winemaker-studio.com, 774-641-7488.

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A Guide to Local Favorites

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Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner year-round, featuring fresh and local dishes by executive chef Matty Boudreau, one of the Hamptons' most acclaimed chefs, and a wine list curated by renowned author and wine enthusiast Jay McInerney. Choose from surf & turf, expertly grilled burgers, succulent fish, buttery lobster rolls and a selection of seasonal dishes. Watch the sunset over Sag Harbor Cove from the second-floor dining room and outdoor terrace. Dining room reservations strongly recommended. Reserve the Map Room for private events. 31 West Water Street, Sag Harbor. **631-725-2101, baronscove.com**

BISTRO ÉTÉ
Re-opening March 15
French/Mediterranean $$$
Chef and author Arie Pavlou has found a permanent home at 760 Montauk Highway in Water Mill in which to prepare his brand of French Coastal cuisine. Look for new items each week to follow the season of local bounty from land and sea prepared expertly in a friendly atmosphere. **631-500-9085, bistroete.com**

BOBBY VAN'S
Steak and Fish $$$ 🍷
Steakhouse classics and fresh fish. Open 363 days for lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Open every day from 11:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. 2393 Main Street, Bridgehampton. **631-537-0590, bobbyvans.com**

HAMPTON COFFEE COMPANY
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One of the East Coast's first artisan micro-roasteries and a Dan's Papers' Best of the Best since 1994. Small-batch, hand-roasted coffee, delicious homemade food and more. Espresso bars & cafés in Westhampton Beach and Aquebogue, Coffee Experience Store/Pour Over Bar on the highway in Southampton, Mobile Espresso Unit, and a full-service sit-down café and espresso bar in Water Mill. Outdoor seating; family and pet-friendly. Quality casual catering too. **631-726-COFE** or visit Twitter and Facebook. **hamptoncoffeecompany.com**

DINING OUT KEY:
Price Range $$$
Local Wine 🍷
Kid-Friendly 🍷
For complete restaurant listings and more dining information, visit **danshamptons.com**

MUSE IN THE HARBOR
New American $$$
Dinner Thursday–Sunday beginning at 5:30 p.m. Brunch Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. –3 p.m. 16 Main Street, Sag Harbor. **631-899-4810, museintheharbor.com**

PIERRE'S
Casual French $$$
Euro-chic but casual French restaurant and bar. Late dinner and bar on weekdays. Open 7 days. Brunch Fri.–Sun., 10 a.m.–5 p.m. 2468 Main Street, Bridgehampton. **631-537-5110, pierresbridgehampton.com**

MONTAUK

GURNEY'S MONTAUK
Ocean-Fresh & Local $$ 🍷 🍷
The resort features a number of dining options—Scarpetta Beach, Tillie's, Corso Coffee, The Regent Cocktail Club and The Beach Club. Delivering ocean-fresh and local fare, unique seasonal renditions, and signature drinks. All set in a beautifully appointed dining room with sweeping panoramic views of the ocean from every table. 290 Old Montauk Highway, Montauk. **631-668-2345 gurneysmontauk.com**

NORTH FORK AND RIVERHEAD

CLIFF'S ELBOW ROOM
Steak and Seafood $$ 🍷 🍷
The best aged and marinated steak, freshest seafood and local wines, in a casual, warm atmosphere. Lunch and dinner. Two locations: 1549 Main Road, Jamesport. **631-722-3292**; 1065 Franklinville Road, Laurel. **631-298-3262, elbowroomli.com**

S. Dermont
The view from the Winemaker Studio in Peconic

MODERN SNACK BAR
American $$ 🍷 🍷
For over 55 years the Modern Snack Bar has had a simple premise: to serve good food at reasonable prices to their "family" of patrons. Serving old time favorites and current foodie options too! Route 25, Aquebogue. **631-722-3655, modernsnackbar.com**

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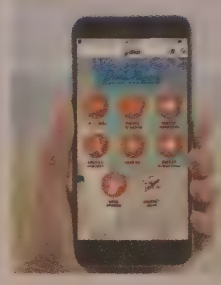

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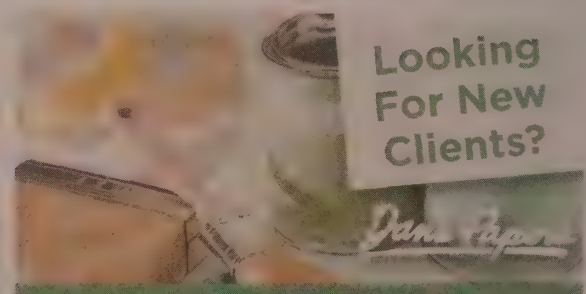

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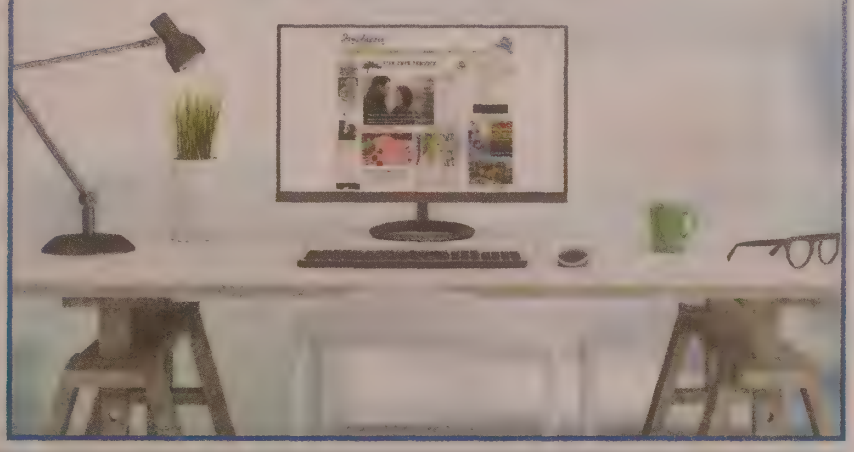

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Publication distributed Thursday & Friday

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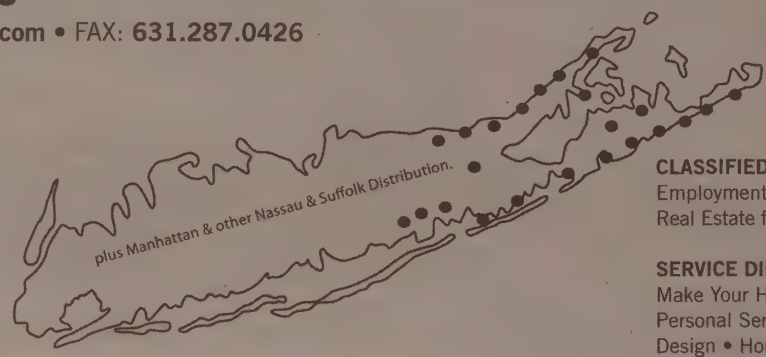

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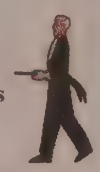

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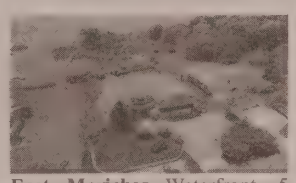

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REAL ESTATE

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Everything You Need to Know About CPF

BY LAURA EULER

Recent news stories have revealed that the Peconic Bay Community Preservation Fund (CPF) raked in $95.9 million in 2017. But that huge sum isn't a record breaker. That honor belongs to 2014, when $107.8 million was raised.

These numbers make headlines, but there seems to be a lot of misinformation around about the fund. So to clear up any misunderstanding, here's a primer about the CPF.

The CPF is a real estate transfer tax payable by the buyer when property changes hands. It's a one-time levy of 2% of the sales price.

Many people believe that there's one monolithic Fund out there gathering monies. That's not the case. Each of the five East End towns—Riverhead, Southold, Shelter Island, Southampton, and East Hampton—collect CPF revenue on its own. Each town's board decides how to spend it, with public input. Money raised in that town stays in that town. The almost-$96 million mentioned earlier is all of the revenue of the five towns added together. Southampton, which is generally the revenue leader, pulled in $56.4 million in 2017, while East Hampton collected $26.7 million and the other three towns made up the balance.

The other misconception many people have is the involvement of the Peconic Land Trust. The Peconic Land Trust, which does, of course, have a similar name to the CPF and a similar mission, is a private conservation organization. While it works with towns and landowners to conserve and save land, it does not receive the 2% real estate transfer tax. The Peconic Land Trust raises money through charitable gifts and payment for professional services.

A little history: The CPF was established by voter referendum in 1998. In 2006, and again in 2016, voters approved the extension of the tax. It's now in place until 2050. The program is very successful. It has raised $1.283 billion in funds and protected more than 10,000 acres of land that would have been lost to development.

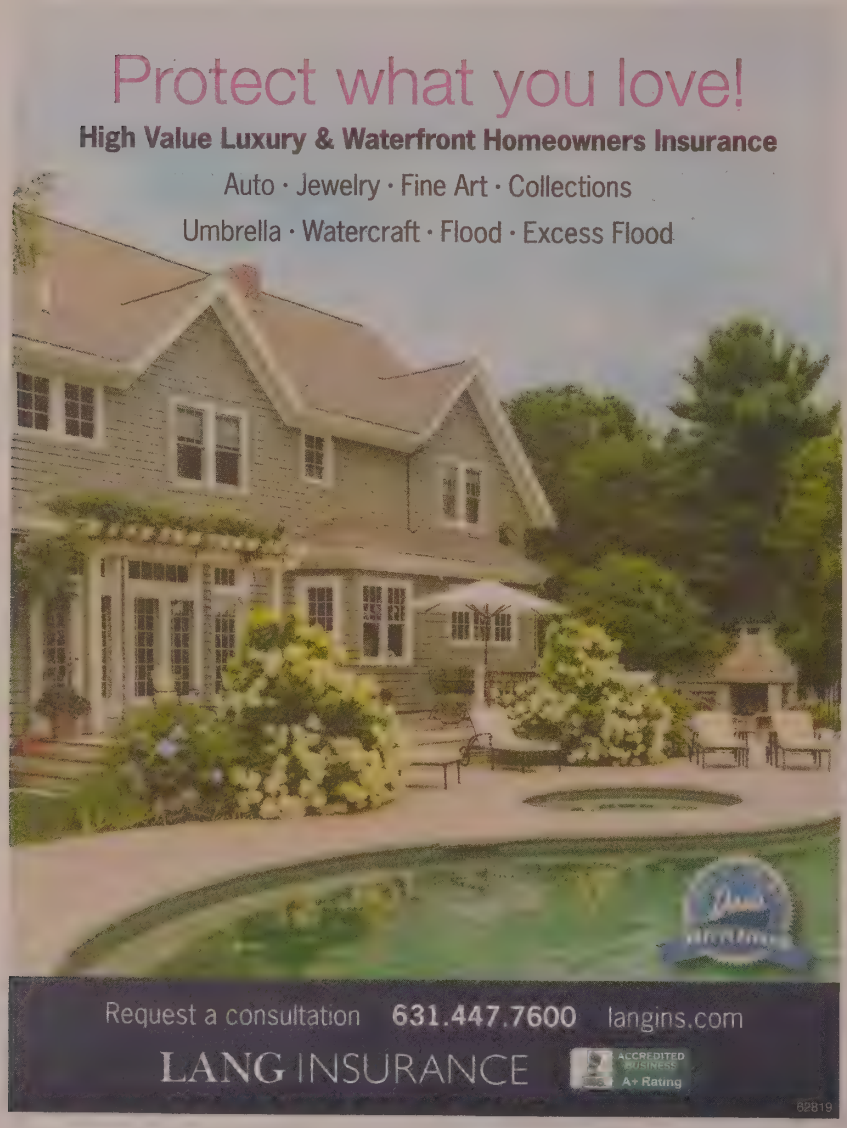
The money collected is used by the five towns to preserve farmland, by purchasing development rights from farmers. Towns may also pay farmers who have sold their development rights to ensure that the land is only used to produce food crops. Of course, the funds are also used to preserve open space and create parks. Another use is to preserve historic buildings, such as the recently approved plan by East Hampton to restore the 11-acre former homestead of artists James Brooks and Charlotte Park and their two studios in Springs.

In 2016, the referendum allowed each town to allocate 20% of their CPF money to water quality improvement. For example, one such project in Springs is to plant vegetation at the outflow of Pussy's Pond to capture nitrogen and other nutrients before they reach Accabonac Harbor.

Now, the specifics: In Southold and Riverhead the tax is 2% of the amount over $75,000 on the purchase price of unimproved land and 2% of the amount over $150,000 on the purchase price of improved land. In Southampton, East Hampton and Shelter Island, the tax is 2% of the amount over $100,000 on the purchase price of unimproved land and 2% of the amount over $250,000 on the purchase price of improved land.

First-time homebuyers in East Hampton, Southampton, Shelter Island and Southold can apply for an exemption from the transfer tax. Riverhead is the only East End town without the benefit.

Read all the latest East End real estate news on BehindtheHamptons.com.



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